N° 26/121

International Court of Justice

REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
v/
UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT
OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS
In the presence of
THE FALKLAND ISLANDS
(« *Falklands War I* »)

DECISION
FINAL JUDGMENT

President: ST HELIER, President
Curiam: CHARLES, KYOLAC, MAJU, ST HELIER
Registrar: Matthew E. WRIGHTSON

The Hague, 11th of June 2026

THE COURT:

1. By an application enrolled at the Registry of the Court on the 9th of May 2026, the Republic of Albania prays that the Court annul the revealed decision by which the Department of Political Affairs has treated the Union of Columbia as a belligerent in a conflict monitored by the Department.

2. The applicant argues that:

    a. in admitting the Union of Columbia to the conflict without a formalised decision, the Department of Political Affairs vitiated its decision by a defect in its form;

    b. in admitting the Union of Columbia as a belligerent, the Department of Political Affairs erred as a matter of law.

3. By an interlocutory application enrolled at the Registry of the Court the 9th of May 2026, the Republic of Albania prayed that the Court indicate provisional measures in respect of the aforementioned decision.

4. The parties were summoned to attend an oral hearing in respect of the provisional measures on the 9th of May 2026, where the Court heard observations from:

    a. Mini9999, agent of the Republic of Albania;

    b. Samianz12, agent of the Union of Columbia;

    c. Oscar Dacke, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and ExoticSpectr3, representatives of the Department of Political Affairs.

5. By judgment of the 10th of May 2026, the Court dismissed the application for interlocutory measures on account of the absence of a seriously arguable case in favour of the applicant. By

Stable URL: https://archive.org/details/icj-26121-11062026

order of the 13th of May 2026, the Court directed cloture of the pleadings and instruction on the 14th of May 2026.

6. An incident to the jurisdiction of the Court is its inherent authority of the Court, to conduct the good administration of cases before it. In particular, where the Court is satisfied on the basis of the record, particularly where it has determined after hearing an application for provisional measures, that it is not necessary to conduct an oral hearing before entering judgment on the papers, the Court may, with reasonable notice, enter an order of cloture, and, in the absence of the express representations of one or more of the parties, dispense with oral hearing.

7. It results from the exhibits and articles on the record of the Court, and which are not contested by the parties, that a conflict between the Republic of Albania and the Falkland Islands was raised before the Department of Political Affairs in consequence of an ultimatum sent by the Falkland Islands to the Republic of Albania. It is equally not contested, that after the conflict was raised with the Department of Political Affairs, the Department, after conferring with the Falkland Islands undertook to convene the Union of Columbia to participate in those proceedings, including, in particular, by corresponding with representatives of the Union alongside those of the applicant and the Falkland Islands in determining the administrative and operation parameters of the conflict. It results therefrom that the Department of Public Affairs must be regarded as having made a decision, having the character of an administrative act amenable to review before this Court, to add the Union of Columbia to the conflict between the Republic of Albania and the Falkland Islands as a belligerent.

8. In respect of the first ground, as this Court recalled in its interlocutory judgment, it does not appear from the record that the alleged defects of form affecting the impugned decision deprived the applicant of effective and timely notice of the Department's decision, and does not appear from the record to have exercised any influence on the substance of the decision, nor to have been motivated by an abusive, reckless, or other improper purpose.

9. With respect to the second ground, as this Court recalled in its interlocutory judgment, the sovereign power to freely conclude treaties includes that of concluding treaties for the collective self-defence of nations, subject to the limits of the right of self-defence cognisable at law.

10. Both grounds pleaded by the applicant may only be dismissed.

11. In the absence of supplemental pleading or material subsequent to the Court's interlocutory judgment, the reasons for the said judgment are adopted and confirmed in their entirety as part of this final judgment and decree of the Court.

ORDERS:

1. Application nº 26121 is **dismissed** this Court.

The Hague, 11th of June 2026

Stable URL: https://archive.org/details/icj-26121-11062026

Per curiam :

President

Judge-Assessor

Judge-Assessor

Judge-Assessor

Registrar

Stable URL: https://archive.org/details/icj-26121-11062026